State of Hawaii DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES Division of Aquatic Resources Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

March 23, 2007

Board of Land and Natural Resources Honolulu, Hawaii

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO AMEND/EXTEND A DLNR/UH CONTRACT (NO. 55137 – EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF RESTRICTED FISHING AREAS FOR IMPROVING THE BOTTOMFISH FISHERY) TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING (\$398,000) FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2007 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2008

Submitted herewith for your consideration is a request to amend and extend Contract No. 55137 between the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the University of Hawaii (UH). Supplemental Contract No. 1 will extend the period of the Contract from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 and provide additional funding in the amount of \$398,000 for the on-going bottomfish project. Funds are from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Sport Fish Restoration Program (\$198,000) and LNR 401 State General Fund (\$200,000). The UH will provide the required federal match component (\$130,000). Funds for the project are contained in the FY08 Operating Budget, although funding may be adjusted according to changes made by the 2007 Legislature and administrative allocations.

The bottomfish project, conducted by the UH's Department of Oceanography (P.I. Dr. Jeff Drazen) supports research activities essential to the management of our fishery resources. In FY08, the project will focus on monitoring bottomfish populations inside and outside seven new Restricted Fishing Areas using BOTCAM drop cameras and, if needed, limited experimental fishing surveys. Data collected in this manner will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the State's closed area management plan for this fishery.

RECOMMENDATION:

"That the Board authorizes the Chairperson to negotiate and, subject to necessary approvals, amend and extend Contract No. 55137 with the University of Hawaii."

Respectfully submitted,

DAN POLHEMUS Administrator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

PETER T. YOUNG Chairperson